



COUNCILMEMBER CARL DeMAIO

FIFTH DISTRICT
CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 25, 2009

TO: Fire Safe Council of San Diego County

FROM: Councilmember Carl DeMaio *Carl DeMaio*

RE: Review of Sufficiency of Existing Codes and Enforcement Criteria for Fire Prevention

I am requesting that the Fire Safe Council undertake a review of the question of whether or not the San Diego Municipal Code offers too limited ability to enforce brush maintenance.

It seems there may be an inconsistency between what city officials have recommended homeowners to do with respect to brush management against fire risk versus what the code allows the city to enforce. This is causing confusion in the community about what constitutes the need for enforcement and what is considered a safe, non-fire hazard environment.

I would also ask the Fire Safe Council request feedback from chapters in the City of San Diego about whether or not similar concerns have been brought forward by HOA's or homeowners in their respective areas.

If the Fire Safe Council is finding similar issues being raised to the various chapters, it may be appropriate to dialogue with members to learn if further evaluation of the codes is needed and/or suggestions could be offered to improve and clarify the enforcement process.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my request. My office is willing to assist if needed.

cc: Chief Tracy Jarman
Assistant Chief Javier Mainar
Fire Marshal Frankie Murphy
Kelly Broughton, Director of Development Services
Bob Vacchi, Deputy Director, Neighborhood Code Compliance
Rancho Bernardo Fire Safe Council
Scripps Ranch Fire Safe Council